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USEPA

Edward Messina

I live on the South Plains of Texas. We have a small vineyard, pecan trees and raise a large garden. Over the past 2 years we have seen the damaging effects of dicamba and 24d drift-violitization. This year has been especially bad. We have taken several big hits along with everyone surrounding us. It not only has affected our grapes but our vegetable garden, it has made our pecan trees drop fruit and really has hit all of our other plants and trees around our house VERY hard. We can smell it in the air and at times it has been so strong as to almost make us sick. It should come as no surprise when I see everything I have invested so much in -not just money but time and labor to be devastated by the drift from these herbicides that I am mad.

The farmers surrounding us are not following the label guidelines or practicing recommendations for spraying.

They are spraying when the temperature is 87 to 95 degrees, when the wind is blowing 12 to 19 mph with some even spraying at night. I would not care what they do if it stayed on their field but it doesn't. When confronted and you tell them you have grapes growing that it is affecting your plants their response is "SO".

I think all labels from BAYER/Monsanto, BASF and Corteva should be vacated. All use of these products including generics should be banned.

It is not just the plants it is affecting but we are having to breath these vapors. We are concerned about our health. We are very concerned about that the vegetables and fruit that we do harvest has residual herbicide in it.

I have been involved in agriculture most of my life. I've never seen such disregard for producers surrounding the cotton producers. I have been involved in healthcare for the past 18 years- I am a nurse (RN) and paramedic. I have 2 degrees.

I believe that the manufacture and sale of dicamba (and all generics) and 24d should be banned and labels vacated. The use of these dangerous - poisonous herbicides should be banned. It is killing everything.

Thank you for your time

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